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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/881,732	06/18/2001	Shogo Fujimori	1614.1109-CIP	8751
21171	7590	02/25/2005	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			GARCIA OTERO, EDUARDO	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2123	

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/881,732

Applicant(s)

FUJIMORI ET AL.

Examiner

Eduardo Garcia-Otero

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 2001 and 31 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/18/01.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION: Non-final Action

Introduction

1. Title is: NOISE COUNTERMEASURE DETERMINATION METHOD AND APPARATUS AND STORAGE MEDIUM.
2. First named inventor is: FUJIMORI.
3. Claims 1-15 have been submitted, examined, and rejected.
4. This Application is a Continuation-in-part of 09/750,051.
5. Priority is claimed to Japanese patent application 2000-138681 filed May 11, 2000 and also to Japanese patent application 2000-159100 filed May 29, 2000 and also to Japanese patent application 2000-393067 filed December 25, 2000.

Index of Important Prior Art

6. Tsuchida refers to US patent 5,559,997, issued September 24, 1996.
7. Dorf refers to The Electrical Engineering Handbook, Second Edition, Richard C. Dorf, CRC Press, 1997, pages 2265-2272.
8. Guo refers to US patent 6,597,808, filed December 6, 1999.
9. Koford refers to US patent 6,493,658 filed April 19, 1994.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102(b)

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action: A person shall be entitled to a patent unless – (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
11. Claim 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsuchida.
12. Claim 1 is an independent “method” claim.
13. In claim 1, “**(a) obtaining an analyzing circuit judgment result... and outputting an improvement proposal**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “addition of noise reduction component” and “rated value change” and “all changeable parts” and “simulation”.
14. Claims 2-5 depend from independent claim 1.
15. In claim 2, “**(b) calculating**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “addition of noise reduction component” and “rated value change” and “all changeable parts” and “simulation”.

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16. In claim 2, “**(c) obtaining a characteristic value judgment result**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “rated value change”.
17. In claim 2, “**(d) analyzing**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “simulation”.
18. In claim 2, “**(e) selecting and outputting an improvement proposal**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “addition of noise reduction component” and “rated value change”.
19. In claim 3, “**(f) analyzing**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “simulation”.
20. In claim 3, “**(g) judging acceptability**” is Tsuchida FIG 1 “expected operation”.
21. In claim 3, “**(h) analyzing**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “simulation” and “expected operation”.
22. In claim 3, “**(i) improvement proposal**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “addition of noise reduction component” and “rated value change”.
23. In claim 4, “**(b) analyzing**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “simulation”.
24. In claim 4, “**(c) judging acceptability**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “expected operation” and “simulation”.
25. In claim 4, “**(d) analyzing**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “simulation”.
26. In claim 4, “**(e) selecting and outputting an improvement proposal**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “addition of noise reduction component” and “rated value change”.
27. In claim 5, “**(b) judging**” is disclosed by Tsuchida FIG 1 “expected operation” and “simulation”.
28. Claims 6-10 are “apparatus” claims with the same limitations as claims 1-5 above, and thus are rejected for the same reasons.
29. Claims 11-15 are “computer-readable storage medium” claims with the same limitations as claims 1-5 above, and thus are rejected for the same reasons.

Additional Cited Prior Art

30. The following US patents or publications are hereby cited as prior art, but have not been used for rejection. Applicant should review these carefully before responding to this office action.
31. The Electrical Engineering Handbook, Second Edition, Richard C. Dorf, CRC Press, 1997, pages 2265-2272. Specifically, Dorf page 2271 equation (100.27) discloses “undershoot” for transient responses. The oscillations in Dorf FIG 100.6 in response to a step input are commonly known as “ringing” (like ringing a bell).

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32. US patent 6,597,808, by Guo, filed December 6, 1999. Specifically, Guo at column 6 lines 35-49 discloses:

"One technique for assessing distance is to determine whether one end point is within a predetermined radial distance from the other end point. See FIG. 11A. We refer to this as a circular distance function. Another technique is to define a square bounding box of predetermined size around one end point and to determine whether the other end point is within that bounding box. See FIG. 11B. We refer to this as the square distance function. A third technique is to define a square bounding box of predetermined size around one end point and then to rotate the bounding box around that end point to determine if at any rotational orientation the second end point falls within the bounding box. This will occur, if at all, when one corner of the bounding box lies on a line between the two end points. See FIG. 11C. We call this the Manhattan distance function."

33. Note that Guo discloses three separate techniques for assessing distance, and that the first (radial distance) and third (Manhattan distance) techniques appear directly related by the square root of two. Specifically, the Manhattan distance equals the radial distance times the square root of two, where the Manhattan distance equals the full width of the bounding box.
34. US patent 6,493,658 discloses "optimal placement... optimal configuration" at abstract.

Conclusion

35. All pending claims stand rejected.

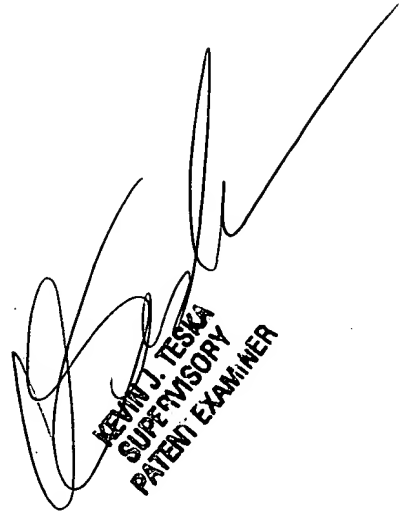
Communication

36. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eduardo Garcia-Otero whose telephone number is 571-272-3711. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor,

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Kevin Teska, can be reached at 571-272-3761. The fax phone number for this group is 703-872-9306.

* * * *



KEVIN J. TESKA
SUPERVISORY
PATENT EXAMINER